

Veterinary Medicine has advanced greatly over time and so has the care of our exotic pets. Bringing your ferret to a qualified and experienced exotic animal veterinarian is essential to their health care program as well as prevention of disease. This prevention is the key to providing the best possible care and more importantly the best life for our pets.

Traditionally, dogs and cats have been brought to veterinarians for regular check-ups, vaccines, fecal testing, heartworm testing, any other necessary blood work and preventative care. So should your ferret. Regular exams are recommended so a trained veterinarian can examine your pet for any physical abnormalities; monitor its weight and growth. Ferrets should also receive vaccines as well. They too need a series of Distemper vaccines and a Rabies vaccine as a baby and should then be vaccinated yearly as adults. Yearly fecal testing for intestinal parasites should be part of your ferret's routine veterinary care. Too often these pets have intestinal parasites that can lead to illness. Ferrets should also be tested for heartworm disease and placed on appropriate heartworm preventative. Heartworm disease is spread via mosquitoes so even though ferrets are kept indoors, they too are at risk just like dogs and cats. Ferrets can also develop dental tartar that can lead to further dental disease. Your veterinarian can recommend when is the best time to have your ferrets teeth cleaned.

There are many illnesses that your ferret can develop. These can start from poor husbandry, improper diet or environment, all the way up to bacteria, viruses, parasites and even the extremes of adrenal disease, insulinomas, heart disease or cancer. This can all be detected early by bringing your ferret to a qualified veterinarian for routine veterinary care. This is essential to their general health care, prevention of disease and key to your ferret living a long healthy life. When your ferret becomes sick, a qualified exotics veterinarian can provide the care they need to determine why they are sick and how to make them better.

****If any abnormal signs are seen in your exotic pet they should be brought to a qualified veterinarian immediately!**

About Us.....

Paws, Wings & Scales Animal Hospital is a privately owned animal hospital dedicated to providing full veterinary care for primarily Exotic Animals as well as Dogs and Cats. We are fully equipped to provide both wellness care as well as full needs for our sick patients from bloodwork, radiographs, ultrasound, surgery and many other diagnostics and treatments. Dr Stancel has been an exotic animal veterinary for over 20 years and provides compassionate care for all his patients. We are always here to help our patients in any way we can.

Common Ailments Seen in Ferrets

- **Parasites (Internal/ External)**
- **Bacterial Infections**
- **Viral Infections**
- **Dental Disease**
- **Insulinoma**
- **Adrenal Disease**
- **Lymphoma and other Neoplasia (Cancer)**
- **Cardiac Disease**
- **Foreign Bodies**

Recommended Preventative Health Care for Ferrets

- **Complete Physical Examinations every 6-12 months**
 - **Yearly Rabies Vaccine**
 - **Yearly Ferret Distemper Vaccine**
 - **Yearly Fecal Examinations to check for Parasites**
 - **Heartworm Prevention**
 - **Nail Trimming**
 - **Husbandry Analysis**
 - **Diagnostic Testing**
 - **General Blood Profiles**
 - **Others as Recommended for Individuals**
- **NOTE:** Many newly purchased ferrets have only received one vaccine from the breeder. Just like a puppy or kitten, your ferret needs a series of distemper vaccine boosters as well as rabies vaccine.



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Why Should I Bring My Ferret to a Veterinarian?

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